

Victorian Rock Lobster Fishery Management Plan 2024

Explanatory Statement

On 27 October 2024, Steve Dimopoulos MP, Minister for Outdoor Recreation, declared the Victorian Rock Lobster Fishery Management Plan 2024 (Management Plan).

This is the fourth management plan for the Victorian Rock Lobster Fishery and replaces the previous plan declared in 2017 and expands on the directions introduced in each previous version.

The Management Plan specifies the policies, management objectives and strategies for managing the rock lobster resource in Victorian waters under the requirements of the *Fisheries Act 1995* and the principles of ecologically sustainable development.

The objectives for the Rock Lobster Fishery include the following:

- Objective 1: Ensure the sustainability of the rock lobster resource
- Objective 2: Optimise community benefit of the rock lobster resource
- Objective 3: Ensure best practice cost-effective participatory management
- Objective 4: Sustain the ecological integrity of the fishery ecosystem
- Objective 5: Enhance community trust, respect and value of the fishery

Focusing on these objectives, the Management Plan builds on the initiatives introduced in the previous plan to continue to enhance the sustainability of the Victorian rock lobster stocks for all parties harvesting the resource. It introduces an updated harvest strategy as well as a revamped digital program to estimate recreational catch.

A copy of the Management Plan can be found on the VFA website.



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